

Honoring mothers and their gay sons through the stories they share







## Our Story

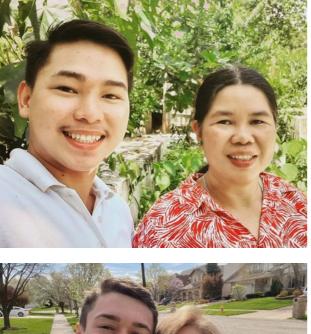


Why is the bond between mothers and their gay sons so powerful? Mom is the person most likely to support, affirm, celebrate, and love every aspect of her son's life, including his sexual/emotional orientation.

Rick Miller LICSW, a psychotherapist and himself a gay son, founded Gay Sons and Mothers to explore the significance of this bond. No other organization is doing similar research.

Three themes we've uncovered as a result:

- Your mother is the person who has the greatest impact on your life and on your psychological well-being, especially when you've been treated unfairly for being different.
- You would think a lot of mothers rejected their sons for being gay. Yet there are many accepting mothers out there who turn away from what they're being told—and follow their intuition.
- Men who are mentally healthy had mothers who just accepted them and let them be who they wanted to be.









Gay Sons and Mothers is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization established in 2018 by Rick Miller, LICSW, with a highly qualified board of directors. We offer workshops, presentations, and training to groups supporting LGBTQ+ awareness, enriching myriad diverse communities and— extraordinarily—enabling rapprochement, understanding, and healing to take place.

## What we offer includes

- Mothers Who Inspire: a video series featuring live interviews with mothers of gay men of diverse cultural backgrounds, who discuss the challenges and joys of their relationship.
- Consultation with nonprofits providing LGBTQ+ education and resources that aim to normalize the experiences of LGBTQ+ people and their allies in a welcoming way.
- A multicultural and diverse prism through which to understand relationships in different national, religious, and cultural communities, including intersectionality of LGBTQ+ with other diverse communities.
- Work that contributes to and participates in innovative academic research.
- Popular presentations on a variety of topics, such as resiliency, allyship, masculinity, family dynamics, and more; see our website for more information.
- Mother's Day: A series of short videos in which sons thank their mothers for helping them be who they are today.

## *Highlighting a few of our speaking engagements*

- TEDx "Hyperlocal," Provincetown, MA
- Wray Ward Marketing and Communications, Charlotte, NC
- Harvard University Health Services, Boston, MA
- Evryman Men's Groups (online, international)
- The Locher Room, National Coming OUT Series Special Episode
- Voices of Empowerment & Social Justice Symposium, National Association of Clinical Social Workers.
- Keynote Speaker, Austin ISD Pride Week, Austin, TX
- The Brief Therapy Conference, Burlingame, CA
- Yale/New Haven Health Services Offices of Diversity and Inclusion, New Haven, CT
- Mama Dragons at Encircle, Salt Lake City, UT
- Judy Shepard on Mothers Who Inspire.



At Gay Sons and Mothers, we welcome partnerships and research collaborations with other LGBTQ+ organizations, sponsorship at workplaces, and donations to help us continue this important work.

We're always looking for opportunities to bring this dialogue to more communities and organizations, and we'll bring you just the right presentation/workshop in just the right format. Please take a look at our website as well as this brief video that defines what we do, and let us know how we can work with you!